

DEPARTMENT HEAD MONTHLY REPORTS TO THE TOWN MANAGER
OCTOBER, 2006

Below, please find a compilation of reports from each Town Department

ASSESSOR: Submitted by David Utakis

October marked the completion of most of the three year re-certification of values project. I will be meeting Nov. 7 with our state Department of Revenue (DOR) re-certification advisor to review our proposed assessments for FY2007. Once we receive a preliminary approval of values, a public display of the values will be advertised and conducted. Once that is complete and the results reported to DOR, a final approval of values is expected.

Due to the fact that we completed interim year valuation adjustments in FY2006 and FY2005, we will not see radical changes in values as was seen during the FY2004 re-certification of values. The current changes will reflect the market conditions from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2005.

While we wait for final valuation approval, work will begin in earnest on the annual tax rate recapitulation. The first step is to gain approval of our new growth figures. These cannot be finalized, of course, until we get final approval on the new valuations for FY2007.

As of this writing I cannot provide you with accurate new growth totals, but I can say the Tax Incentive Financed (TIF) new growth figures will show a **one time only** spike in new tax dollars. I am projecting an increase of \$240,402 in new taxes generated by TIF agreement companies. That one time blast occurs because of a jolt in valuation from the completion of the BJ's project on Quaker Highway. That spike will more than offset any decreases in residential new growth caused by a slowdown in the marketplace this fiscal year only. I expect new growth to drop significantly next year, because of the market slowdown and the leveling off and gradual phase out of TIF projects.

I had hoped the re-certification project would have been done a month sooner, but we had a delay in obtaining report writing capability for our CAMA system which wasn't installed until mid October. CAMA is an abbreviation for computer assisted mass appraisal system. That system is maintained by the Community Software Consortium (CSC) of which we are members. That consortium consists of 75 Massachusetts towns and is run by DOR staff. Both DOR staff at CSC and in the certification department has been short on staff and have experienced recent staff turnover.

Despite any delays mentioned, I expect our re-certification will be approved in time to complete our tax rate recapitulation which is a precursor to tax rate approval. The tax rate for FY2004 was approved on Dec. 23, 2003. That was the last re-certification year. Because this town holds its final town meeting so late in the year, the town will always face the potential peril of not getting a tax rate approved in time to get tax bills out on Dec. 31. If we fail to get them out by Dec. 31, taxes won't be due until May 1 instead of Feb. 1. An alternative using third quarter preliminary bills can be used if the rate cannot be set on time due to revaluation delays or late town meetings. This is an option would should avoid at all costs.

I met Oct. 26 with Franco Rossi, vice president of Cartographic Associates, regarding potential updates of our GIS mapping program and mapping updates in general. He informed me that his company has yet to receive data from the company which was to provided sewer and water line

information. He also hadn't received anything from the committee that was reviewing zoning map changes.

I gave Mr. Rossi the information pertaining to recently approved zoning changes so that they may be included on our mapping system. He will, however, need more information in order to complete an updated zoning map to be presented to voters for approval at a town meeting. At my request, Mr. Rossi is working on a proposal to continue to update our GIS maps to show all buildings existing on all lots in town. Funds to pay for this project would come out of the town's GIS maintenance and enhancement account.

Our dedicated and hard-working team which includes Barbara Harris and Jennifer Hyland has been busy with the seasonal work of accepting and reviewing chapter land applications and exemption requests from senior citizens and veterans. They have also done extensive work in helping with the re-certification work in addition to all the other daily tasks of excise tax abatements, deed changes, excise tax commitments and certified abutter lists.

BOARD OF HEALTH: Submitted by Susan Smith

The following is a summary of Board of Health activities from October 1, 2006 through October 31, 2006.

Food inspections – 24	Food re-inspections – 3	Complaint re-inspections - 3
Court visits – 1		

The Health Agent worked a total of 90 hours in the month of October.

The Board of Health office completed the following by e-mail, phone and walk-in:

Calls for service – 67	Request for copies – 9
Complaints investigated – 19	Phone calls – 120 Walk-ins – 53

Meetings held 3, October 5, 19, and 25.

Relevant actions:

October 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30 – Susan Smith, Chairman and Thomas Rice and Cay DenHerder continue to attend Public Health Administration seminars being held in Amherst.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT: Submitted by Nick Gazerro

The month of October, Zoning issues have taken up a lot of time (as usually). During this month the Fire Inspector and I have been doing yearly inspections. Calls are still very busy approximately 120-175 weekly.

For October 2006 the number of permits issued and the fee collected is as follows:

Plumbing - 11 permits issued	Fee's Collected	\$1,215.00
Gas - 21 permits issued	Fee's Collected	\$862.00
Electric - 21 permits issued	Fee's Collected	\$2,990.92
Building - 40 permits issued	Fee's collected:	\$14,577.00
	Total:	\$19,644.92

Following are the Building Permits that were issued during the month of October:

2 Garage	8 Additions
1 Basement Remodel	2 Sheds
3 Roofs	2 Pellet Stoves
5 Wood Stoves	2 Barns
2 Fireplace Inserts	2 SFH = 7,726 sf
2 Replacement Windows	3 Sunrooms
4 Commercial: 1 sign repair, 1 foundation, 1 brick repair, 1 addition = 6,358 sf	

COMMUNITY ACCESS TELEVISION: Submitted by Barry Giles

School Committee Meeting Equipment: The first School Committee Meeting in the month of October was covered live to the community of Uxbridge. I have received positive feed back from viewers.

High School Communication Class: The Television Production Class at the High School has now completed their second news program witch will air on channel 13. The students are now working on a special project witch will be entered into a national competition.

New Equipment: New VCRs have been purchased to replace the old equipment for channel 13. This will improve the quality of the programs played back on the Education Channel.

I have also looked into purchasing a remote camera for the Selectmen Meeting Room to replace the old center camera. A DVD recorder will be purchased for the Selectmen's Meeting room equipment also.

The UCAT BOD has also requested that I look into purchasing a new laptop editing system for the volunteers to use.

Community Programming: We continue to receive programming from outside sources to be broadcast on our local access channels. Some of the new programming received in October is: Flu Facts-from the Department of Public Health.

Bill Albin, one of our dedicated volunteers, has been covering local events in our community including World Smile Day at the Senior Center, The dedication ceremony for Alice Bridges, The St. Mary's Church Ground Breaking and many more programs. I am working with him and the First Night Committee to plan coverage of the First Night events.

Training through Adult Education: Classes began in the beginning of October. Unfortunately we had very few people sign up for the free class. If anyone is still interested in learning about Public Access Television, please contact me.

UCAT Meetings: I have been attending the UCAT Board of Directors meeting to receive input on how to better improve PEG Access television for the Town of Uxbridge. We have been working on establishing an agreement between the town and non-profit organization to manage PEG Access Television. To review their minutes and Procedures, you can check out their web site at www.ucat.tv.

CONSERVATION: Submitted by Rachel Landry

Permitting Activity

The Commission received 5 new applications for work near or within wetlands:

Sarkinen, Robert - 974 Aldrich Street (Map 52, Parcel 3057)

Upgrade of an existing septic system. Work proposed in 100-foot buffer zone of Bordering Vegetated Wetland.

Fred Hutnak Development Corporation - 74 & 84 Eric Drive (Map 8, Parcels 4247 & 4267)

Construction of stormwater management structures associated with a proposed subdivision roadway. Work proposed within 100-foot buffer zone of Bordering Vegetated Wetland.

J.W. Audet, Inc. - Lot 8, Arbor Road (Arbor Estates) (Map 31, Parcel 1225)

Construction of a single family home and appurtenances, portions of which are proposed within 100-foot buffer zone of Bordering Vegetated Wetland, and 200-foot Riverfront Area of Still Corner Brook.

J.W. Audet, Inc. - Lot 9, Arbor Road (Arbor Estates) (Map 31, Parcel 1225)

Construction of a single family home and appurtenances, portions of which are proposed within 100-foot buffer zone of Bordering Vegetated Wetland, and 200-foot Riverfront Area of Still Corner Brook.

MKR Investments, Inc. - 454 Quaker Highway (Map 40, Parcel 3681)

Construction of an auto-washing facility, portions of the work are proposed within 100-foot buffer zone of Bordering Vegetated Wetland.

Permits (Orders of Conditions) were issued for 5 projects:

Sarkinen, Robert - 974 Aldrich Street (Map 52, Parcel 3057)

MKR Investments, Inc. - 454 Quaker Highway (Map 40, Parcel 3681)

TransCanada Power Marketing, Ltd. - Douglas Pike & King Street (Map 53, multiple parcels)

Construction of a subdivision roadway system and associated infrastructure, portions of which are within Bordering Vegetated Wetland and 100-foot buffer zone of Bordering Vegetated Wetland. The Commission worked with the applicant to reduce impacts within 100 feet of a vernal pool on the site. The vernal pool will remain protected as a portion of Open Space associated with this Conservation Design subdivision.

Uxbridge Rod and Gun Club - Lee Reservoir, West Street

Fisheries habitat improvement by dredging Lee Reservoir to deepen portions. The work is proposed within Land Under Water, Bordering Vegetated Wetland, and 200-foot Riverfront Area of Scadden Brook. The work will require additional environmental permits at the State and Federal levels, and work cannot begin until all needed permits are obtained. The Commission will closely monitor this project throughout it's duration to ensure that no damage occurs to Scadden Brook and associated wetlands.

One project was denied:

Marinella Development Corp. - 20 Glen Street (Map 41, Parcel 168)

The proposed project consists of construction of a single family home and appurtenances, portions of which are within 100-foot buffer zone of Bordering Vegetated Wetland. The work was denied for failure to comply with the Commission's 25-foot setback policy. A dwelling was proposed to be constructed 25 feet from the edge of wetland. Such close proximity of a dwelling to wetland edge allows for no yard and compromises structural security as trees (average height of appx. 50 feet) in wetlands may blow over onto the house.

Two Cease and Desist orders were issued:

V1006 - Two Hundred Eighty Eight North Main Street - 288 North Main St. (Map 12C, Parcel 3583)

Clearing of vegetation (trees) within 200-foot Riverfront Area of Rivulet Brook. The property owner has been ordered to stabilize the site and allow natural vegetation to grow in disturbed area.

V1106 – Khumalo, Norman - 4 Dew Lane (Map 23, Parcel 3062)

Placement of fill within Bordering Vegetated Wetland without a permit. The property owner has been ordered to erect erosion controls at the edge of clearing. Deliberations on further enforcement will continue into November.

Deliberations continued into November:

Uxbridge Apartments, LLC - Taft Hill Manor - off Douglas Street (Map 23, Parcel 3765)

The proposed project consists of construction of a 70-unit assisted living facility with associated parking, landscaping and utilities, portions of which are within 100-foot buffer zone of Bordering Vegetated Wetland. The Commission is obtaining peer review of drainage calculations for the project. There is much concern from abutters regarding various project impacts. The Commission has jurisdiction only over wetland resource protection matters and cannot address many abutter concerns including traffic and access issues.

J.W. Audet, Inc. Lots 8 and 9, Arbor Road (Arbor Estates) (Map 31, Parcel 1225)

The Commission is engaged in discussions with the applicant regarding mitigation for loss of 200-foot Riverfront Area which would result from approval of these projects. The applicant has offered a 25 acre gift of land to the Commission, to be owned by the Town and controlled by the Conservation Commission. The parcel is located adjacent to and north of the Legg Farm Conservation Land. The parcel consists mostly of floodplain wetland and abuts the Blackstone River. The parcel contains several acres of Riverfront Area which would be permanently protected. The Commission has deemed this acceptable mitigation for construction of Lots 8 and 9 Arbor Road, and the gift of land will enhance the greenway corridor and connectivity of the currently protected open space along the Blackstone River.

Fred Hutnak Development Corporation -74 & 84 Eric Drive (Map 8, Parcels 4247 & 4267)

The Commission is prepared to issue an Order of Conditions for this project, however, the applicant's representative has requested that it be kept on the agenda in anticipation of possible project changes due to deliberations of other Boards.

Open Space Management

Members of Faith Fellowship Church assisted the Commission as part of their Community Service outreach program. Members assisted Nancy Lyle with painting the beach house and raking the beach at the swim facility located in Pout Pond. Members walked the trails of Pout Pond on litter patrol. Dennis Tetreault used his tractor and brush hog to beat back bushes taking over the lower

fields of Legg Farm as well as to do a much needed maintenance mowing in other portions of the Farm. Members cleared brambles, poison ivy, and old metal debris from the entrance area of Legg Farm and removed fire cherry saplings beginning to overtake portions of high field. The Commission is very grateful for this outpouring of support from Faith Fellowship Church, and we hope to work with Jeff May of Faith Fellowship in the future!

COUNCIL ON AGING: Submitted by Marsha Petrillo

Outreach Report

Our Outreach Coordinator works 15 hours each week and is available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9:00am – 3:00 pm and Thursdays from 8:00 am to 11:00 am. On October 16th Mary Rice had knee surgery. She is at home recovering and expects to be out of work for approximately 4 weeks. At this time Ellen Mayo and I are filling in for Outreach and SHINE inquiries.

Office Visits	10	Home Visits	0
Nursing Home Visits	0	Attended Wakes	0
SMOC Recerts & info Calls	21	Homebound services	0
Referral Calls & Fact Finding	53	Wellness Checks	11
SHINE	32	Attended SHINE Meeting	0

Statistical Data: The following statistics represent the number of individuals using our transportation services, meals on wheels, luncheon attendance and attendance at our various programs:

Van Transportation	298	Medical Transportation	73
Tai Chi	39	Card Games	167
Meals on Wheels Delivered	1,255	Weekend meals delivered	136
Congregate Meals Served	485	Total Meals Served	1,876
Cash Turnovers 10/06	\$ 649.75	Phone calls in & out	858
Guestbook	565	Walmart	14
Cards sent to elders	8	Halloween Party	74
Salem Cross Inn	14	Hannaford	54
Lunch attendance	195	CVS	31
Bank	9	Other	9
Computer Classes	24	Senior Club attendance	51
Podiatry Clinic	7	Fallon Rep	4
Line Dancing	38	World Smile Day Attendance	54

Mental Health Awareness: The Mental Health Support Group met on Tuesday, September 5th @ 7:00 pm. The group is comprised, on average, of approximately 10 individuals each week. We thank Connie and Jim Dwyer for their dedication and commitment to this group.

Meetings: I attended the Interagency Meeting at the Police Station on Wednesday, October 4th.

The director attended the MCOA Annual Fall Conference “*The Boomers are Here...Now What!?*” October 11-13 and attended several workshops including:

- “Tear Down, Renovate, or Move” sponsored by Sterling Associates: a lecture and case-study workshop to clarify the decision-making process that takes place when determining what to do with an undersized or inadequate senior center building.
- “Debate on Controversial Senior Center Issues” sponsored by EOEA: a thought provoking session as pundits take sides to debate controversial senior center issues. Should senior centers: Charge for services? Be accredited? Be compelled to serve meals? Be called by another name? Serve as community focal points? Discussions illustrated the diversity of the group and helped to promote understanding around out internal conflicts.
- “Senior Disaster Action Plan” Louise A. Arnold of CEM Planning Corporation, Bellingham, MA This course presents suggestions on how the local COA can take the lead in disaster and emergency planning for the vulnerable populations in their municipality.
- “Medicare Overview & Update: Prescription Drug Coverage and Other Medicare Changes-Looking Back and Looking Ahead” Presentation of implementation of Medicare changes which resulted from the Medicare Prescription Drug Improvement and Modernization Act of 2003.

The COA Board met on Tuesday, October 10th.

The Senior Club met on October 11th and October 25th . The group decided to make donations to the support our troops fund and to select two names from the Christmas tree and buy gifts for the corresponding families.

The Uxbridge Taxpayer’s held a meeting at the Senior Center on Wednesday evening, October 11th @ 6:30 pm.

Ellen May and I attended SMOC (fuel assistance) training in Framingham on Monday, October 16th.

I attended the VADAR training on Thursday, October 19th.

Guest Speakers: On Wednesday, October 25th, Officer Mike DiVitto conducted a “Lunch n Learn” session and gave information to seniors regarding how to protect yourself against scams.

Lu Pilczak, Tri Valley Nutritionist, presented a special talk entitled “Think Your Drink” on October 27th.

Computer Classes: Classes will run through the end of the month and then break over the holidays. A new 6-week session will begin in January 2007.

Line Dancing (New): Line dancing is now offered on Mondays from 3-4 pm at the Center. Sandra Waite, instructor will offer a second line dancing course through the holidays and is seeking interest regarding a new cardio and light yoga class during the winter months.

World Smile Day: We celebrated “World Smile Day” on Friday, October 6th. Joyce Maffeo owner of the 77 Blossom Shop donated ribboned carnations to all in attendance. Carol Lee Wright, Adam and Amanda Wright, Oliver Sawyer and Amanda Sawyer sang their hearts out to our full- house crowd. Howard Fortner randomly selected Dot Munhall from our audience to receive a dozen red roses. Chief Albin video tapped the event for cable.

Halloween Party: The center hosted a Halloween party on Oct 31st featuring Lisa Manning and her puppets. Chief William Albin tapped the event for cable access and the show will air in the first week of November.

Special Trips: The Senior Center ran a special trip to the Salem Cross Inn and the Brookfield Apple Orchard on October 16th. Brett Lisak agreed to fill in as our van driver and escorted 14 individuals to our special luncheon. Thank you Brett, a great time was had by all!

Special Thanks: Thank you, Justin Harmes and Jason Poole directors from You Inc., and the students attending the GED program for helping us to clean out a “ton” of junk from the building next door. Thank you Pete Petrillo for lending your 1-ton dump truck and for dumping the junk for us at cost. It is our hope to store our van next door in the winter months.

Thank you to Jeff May and the many parishioners of Faith Fellowship Church for volunteering to help senior citizens with yard work and for helping out at the Senior Center by removing the old wallpaper in our kitchen on October 29th. Our kitchen renovation project is well underway, and we are enjoying our new countertops. Funds for the project were raised from our golf tournament held last June.

DPW: Submitted by Larry Bombara

WATER

1. SCADA installation is ongoing and awaiting the installation of the signal tower at the Richardson tank site.
2. DPW met with the BOS to discuss negotiations for the purchase of additional Blackstone St well field land, Additional meetings are scheduled with the property owners.
3. Funds are being requested at the Fall ATM for the DEP Water Audit and Conservation Plan project while Tata and Howard Engineers are pursuing grants to offset portions of the cost.
4. Funds are being requested at the Fall ATM for the permitting and design of the “Rosenfeld” well field with an anticipated on line date of 2008.
5. Design is continuing on the High Street water tank replacement project with an informational mtg for the Finance Committee and the BOS anticipated for December with anticipated construction in 2007.

WASTEWATER

1. Contractors are now being solicited for the R.O.W. clearing project
2. Bids are being opened on November 2nd for the Lime Silo construction project
3. An obstruction was successfully removed from the Mendon Street river siphon after years of attempts.

HIGHWAY

1. Mendon Street (Rt 16) project is nearing completion and ahead of schedule for this year with final completion work remaining commencing in April of next year. Bridge railing replacements at the Mumford River Bridge will begin in the spring also.
2. DPW attended the dedication of the Mumford River Bridge to Alice Bridges, the 1936 Olympic Bronze Medalist on Friday October 27th sponsored by Senator Moore and our State Representatives.
3. Please see below the annual DPW'S "WINTER SNOW AND ICE PROGRAM"

OTHER

1. Articles on the Fall ATM by the DPW
 - o To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Water Div enterprise fund to Account # 650.450.5302.5.0011 Future well field Account the sum of \$165,000 for permitting and design of the future "Rosenfeld" well field or take any other action relating thereto.
 - o To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Water Div enterprise fund to Account # 650.450.5302.5.0004 Capital Outlay Account the sum of \$29,000 for the purpose of conducting a DEP required water audit and conservation plan and further to allow the DPW to accept any available grants for said purpose or take any other action relating thereto.
 - o To see if the Town will raise and appropriate and to transfer from available funds the sum of \$11,000 to the Storm Water Phase II Account # 001.422.5302.2.0004 for the purpose of implementing the EPA mandated program or take any other action relating thereto.
2. All DPW employees are now National Incident Management Systems" (NIMS) certified.
3. The DPW participated in the "In Business for the Blackstone" Stormwater seminar held at Tri-River Health Center on October 24th to educate local businesses in ways to minimize storm water pollution of the Blackstone River.
4. The Faith Fellowship Church spearheaded a great community service day on October 29th cleaning roadsides, portions of Pout Pond, South Uxbridge Fire station and much more. If you happen to run into any members please offer a "Thank You" for a job well done.

WINTER "Snow & Ice" Program

The Town of Uxbridge, Department of Public Works (DPW) has prepared this "Snow & Ice Program" brochure for the residents of Uxbridge. The main objective is to enhance community awareness concerning winter operations. Our mission is to efficiently return over 100 miles of roads to "normal conditions" after each winter event. Your support and patience is necessary and greatly appreciated.

The DPW "Snow & Ice Program" involves a four (4) part process:

1. When the Snowfall Starts....and sometimes earlier.....
2. The Snowfall Continues.....
3. After the Storm.....
4. How the Community Can Help.....

When the Snowfall Starts...and sometimes earlier....

Prior to snow and ice accumulating on the roadways, liquid chlorides or salt may be applied to prevent ice pack from building on the surface. This is commonly called anti-icing. The “brine” stays in the crevices and works before and after plowing operations are completed. When the snowfall starts, the DPW immediately begins to sand and salt the roads to prevent the snow from being compacted and frozen on the road surface. Top priority is given to the Town’s main streets and bus routes. Snowplowing operations typically begin when snow accumulates two (2) inches, or when forecasts indicate that it will. Over 20 Town and private contractor plows are deployed and assigned to pre-determined routes.

The Snowfall Continues.....

The drivers plow their assigned routes to “open-up” each route in a pre-determined sequence with major roads given priority. If the intensity of the storm warrants, the plows remain in the same pattern until the storm subsides. At the end of the storm, the trucks begin to “widen-out” all roads, then clearing the intersections. It is important to note that residents may want to wait until the road has been plowed and “widened-out” before shoveling the entrance to driveways.

DPW’s policy is to plow the full width of the streets, “curb-to-curb”, during each storm. Again, our initial responsibility is to keep the main lines open and safe for travel. These roads are the key to maintaining a steady flow of traffic especially for emergency routes.

The DPW Snow & Ice staff is “well-trained” and “dedicated” to work “around-the-clock”, keeping the roads open and passable. Please, do not be misled by plow trucks riding with their plows up, they may be going in for fuel, repairs, headed to another assigned route, skipping over State jurisdiction roads or are not employed by the Town.

Always an area of concern is mailboxes. To reduce the possibility of damaging a mailbox, our plow truck operators are trained to avoid them. However, experience has shown that with reduced visibility during a snowstorm, combined with the height of the snow banks, it is not always possible for a driver to see a mailbox in time to avoid a collision with the “plow” or the heavy snow that is thrown by the moving plow. Any installation within the road right-of-way (including a mailbox) is placed there at the owner’s risk. Therefore, property owners are encouraged to put mailboxes at the maximum allowable distance from the roadway pavement. It is strongly recommended that mailboxes and posts be inspected to insure they are properly secured and the posts are not rotten.

After the Storm.....After the snowstorm has ended, our crews continue to monitor all roads for icy spots, drifting snow, etc. At this time, a combination of sand, salt and calcium chloride is usually applied to all road surfaces to melt the remaining snow and ice.

How the Community Can Help.....The Community can enhance the snowplowing operation by following these suggestions:

- a. Make certain that your vehicle is ready for winter driving (tires, wiper blades, etc).
- b. Observe and adhere to winter parking bans.
- c. Park vehicles off the road or in your yard during a snowstorm.
- d. Reduce speed and drive cautiously.
- e. Do not drive in winter snowstorms unless absolutely necessary.
- f. Do not throw, plow or blow snow onto the road. This is a Town Bylaw. (see below)

- g. Plows are designed to throw snow up to 30 feet. Sidewalk traffic is not advised during a snow event.
- h. Before your final driveway cleanup, check the street. If your street is not clean “curb to curb”, a plow truck should return to plow again. Please understand that the Town cannot shovel or plow your driveway.
- i. Finally, please be patient. Snowplowing is an arduous and time-consuming job covering over 100 miles of Town roads. Some residents will have their roads plowed “first” and some must be “last”. The workers will continue until the job is done.

Winter Parking Ban: The Town of Uxbridge enforces an overnight parking ban which is in effect from December 1st to April 1st. This ban requires that all roadways be kept clear of any motor vehicles from 12 midnight to 6 a.m. regardless of the weather conditions. Residents are asked to comply with this regulation. Failure to comply will result in the owner receiving a ticket from the Uxbridge Police Department and/or removal of the vehicle from the roadway during a snow emergency at the owner’s expense. If a vehicle is impaired and cannot be removed until morning, the owner is required to alert the Uxbridge Police Department for assistance.

Sidewalks: Usually toward the end of the storm, sidewalks in the 1 mile radius of the lower schools and 1 .5 mile radius of the High School are cleared for passage. Sidewalks beyond that are not cleared.

Fire Hydrants/Catch Basins: During winter months, fire hydrants and catch basins must be kept free and clear of snow and ice. This insures the safety of your neighborhood in the event of an emergency and reduces the possibility of street flooding during heavy rains or snow melting periods. Your assistance is important in making sure snow is cleared from hydrants and catch basins. Please shovel the hydrant and catch basin nearest you after each storm to insure your property’s protection.

Snow Removal for the Downtown Area: If snow becomes a hazard within the business areas, the DPW will implement its snow removal plan. The removal will begin after the storm and may require additional days to insure that all areas are safe for pedestrians. Removal will generally take place during business hours to minimize the financial impact on the Town budget.

Chapter VIII, Sub-section C By-Law

No person shall move snow or ice from private property onto the traveled portion of a public way or sidewalk so as to impede or obstruct the use of such public way or sidewalk or so as to create a hazard or unsafe condition on such a public way or sidewalk.

The Uxbridge Department of Public Works strives to provide the safest streets and roadways in the shortest period of time for the citizens. With your cooperation and commonsense, we will all benefit.

Important Telephone Numbers:
Police Dept: 508-278-7755
Fire Dept: 508-278-2787

DPW- General Information: 508-278-8616
Highway Garage: 508-278-8626
School Dept: 508-278-8648 Emergency: 911

FINANCE DIRECTOR AND TOWN ACCOUNTANT: Submitted by David Genereux

- 1.) We have completed the Schedule A and submitted it to the Department of Revenue. As reported last month, Free Cash for FY 2006 has been certified at 1,798,678.00.
- 2.) RFP's for health insurance were issued by the Town through its insurance advisor, Group Benefit Strategies (GBS), were returned to the Town on October 28. We received quotes from Blue Cross, Fallon & Harvard Pilgrim. GBS is still reviewing the quotes but has advised us that the health insurance budget should be increased by 14.9% for FY 2008.
- 3.) The School Department is now receiving budget reports from VADAR. Town departments will be getting their first budget reports for FY 2007 at a meeting that is scheduled for November 8 at 3:00 pm. This meeting also serves to kickoff the FY 2008 budget season, with the distribution of new FY 2008 budget submission forms.

4.) Cash Reconciliation: September 2006

Starting Balance	10,884,946.91
September Receipts	4,097,983.02
September Warrants	(3,403,568.41)
Cash Balance	\$11,579,361.52

5.) Collections for October Motor Vehicle

Personal Property	53,250.79
Real Estate	2,914,459.40
Tax Title	30,104.49
Interest, Liens & Fees	6,596.47
Total Collected	\$3,004,411.15

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Submitted by Peter Ostroskey

INCIDENT REPORT: The Department responded to 137 emergency incidents including 3 fire/explosion incidents, 102 rescue/medical emergencies, 6 hazardous conditions, 4 service calls, 7 good intent calls, 11 false alarms and 4 special type/complaint responses. We provided mutual aid to neighboring communities 14 times and received mutual aid on 5 occasions. Our personnel operated at significant incidents including:

- An alarm at Stanley Woolen on October 6 during which the integrity of the structure came into question – referred too Building Department
- A construction accident at 38 Summerfield Drive on October 12 from which one adult male was transported by Lifeflight after being struck by a construction vehicle
- A structure fire at 18 Amy Lane on October 18 caused by an electrical fire. Smoke detectors alerted a family of four and damage was minimal as a result of quick detection
- A motorcycle accident on River Road on October 27 resulting in multi trauma to one adult male transported via Lifeflight to the trauma center
- A two car accident requiring extrication on Quaker Highway on the same date resulting in two adult male patients being transported (1 by Lifeflight, one by ground) to the trauma center.

The ambulance service evaluated 115 patients, provided care and transported 78 to area hospitals. The transports were to Milford Regional Medical Center (65), UMass – University Campus (7),

Worcester Medical City/St. Vincent's (2), and Rhode Island Hospital (1). Advanced life support service was involved on 40 occasions.

FIRE PREVENTION: October is Fire Prevention Month and the Department had several Public Education opportunities. Captain Steven Tancrell coordinated our school programs throughout Fire Prevention Week (October 8 through 14) and our Open House sponsored by Papa Gino's on October 18th. The Public Education program reaches all students in the Uxbridge Schools through Grade 8 and has been very effective in reducing fires and injuries. The members participating volunteered their time and did an excellent job for which we have received many compliments!

Inspections and permits included activity as follows; (1) residential sprinkler system inspected and accepted, 35 smoke/carbon monoxide detector inspections were completed, and 13 permits issued for blasting (1), fuel storage (7), fire alarm work (1), propane storage (1), tank vehicle (2) and combustible liquid storage (1).

Department personnel performed cooperative inspections with the Building Inspector at all establishments holding liquor licenses as part of the license renewal process. Other code enforcement inspections were completed as well.

TRAINING: Personnel received training and participated in drills on compressed air foam systems, self-contained breathing apparatus use, area search in buildings, ground and aerial ladder operations and chimney fires.

GENERAL: Firefighter/EMT Kevin Feen achieved certification as a Paramedic after completing his written and practical examinations with the Massachusetts Office of Emergency Medical Services. Kevin is the second full-time member to accomplish this goal and deserves a great deal of credit for his effort and determination.

On October 20, an alarm was received for Box 115, North Main and Seagrave Streets. Responding personnel determined that this was a malicious false alarm and checked the area in cooperation with the on duty Police personnel. Thanks to the work by Captain Tom Dion and Captain Steve Tancrell with Officer Dan Deveau and Officer Kevin MacDonald, Uxbridge Police filed charges against one suspect at District Court in relation to this incident.

The Department was honored again this year to receive notification of a grant award from Ocean State Power – Uxbridge Foundation. The \$4000 grant will allow us to complete a radio system upgrade in conjunction with the Uxbridge Police and DPW that will improve our ability to communicate with field units during emergencies. Work in that project is underway.

The air compressor used for filling our breathing air tanks was upgraded through a donation received last month. The new filtering system and condensation drains complete the overhaul of this equipment. We expect the unit will provide service for some time to come.

On October 29 members of the Faith Fellowship Church performed a community service project at Station 3 in South Uxbridge. The grounds around the building were cleaned, mowed and raked and brush around the parking areas was cut back. Their contribution is a big help to us.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Submitted by Scott Freitas

The following is a list of activity for the Uxbridge Police Department for October, 2006:

During this time dispatch received, responded to and/or dispatched 1031 calls for service to the Police, Fire or EMS. That is about 80 more calls than last month and 164 more calls than were handled in October of 2005. 11.8% of the calls were Fire/EMS related, which usually also required a police response and 88.2% were strictly police related. This current year we have responded to 9644 calls for service. This is an increase of approximately 17.5% compared to last years total at this time. Currently we are still destined to surpass our peak year of 2000 and will have responded to the most calls for service in a year since computer generated data collection started in the early 1990s. We still project to have answered more calls than last year. We expect to do that on or before November 8th. We should surpass the 2000 total on or around December 1st of this year. We project that we will answer somewhere around 11,570 calls this calendar year.

- 81 Motor vehicle citations were issued that included 106 separate violations.
- 19 Motor Vehicle Accidents were investigated. These collisions resulted in 9 injuries. This is about 50% higher than September. The decrease in collisions over the previous two months has come to an end but the overall yearly total is still well below last year. I believe some of the success is because of the deployment of the radar speed signs in accident prone areas around town.
- 38 Arrests or applications for criminal complaints were made this month. 4 were for domestic violence situations. Five were for Drunk Driving . Saturday and Sunday were the high days for arrests with Mondays being the day with the lowest arrest numbers.

The Detective and second shift officers have been going to the local licensed establishments in an attempt to assist town hall with information regarding upcoming license renewals. We hope to have this completed in early November.

Preparations are ongoing for compliance operations at our local alcohol establishments. Results will be forwarded to the Town Manager and the Board of Selectmen upon completion.

Traffic is still an issue during the ongoing construction of Mendon Street. Patience on the part of the motoring public is and has been appreciated. The traffic patterns will remain a difficult issue as the traffic patterns are apt to change quickly due to the needs of the project on a daily basis.

Training: Newly appointed Officers Gregory Bach and Benjamin Smoot are still training at the Police Academy in Boylston. Graduation is expected in early January. Officers Josiah Morrisette and Daniel Deveau took a course in Basic Portuguese for Law Enforcement. Recently there has been an upswing in interaction with this community. Sergeants Peter Emerick, Michael Wilson and Timothy Burke all attended training sessions at the Conference of the International Association of Chiefs of Police held in Boston. They received top notch training in areas like patrol officer operations, motivation and special operations during special emergencies. I also attended the conference which in addition to the above classes also included, speed enforcement in residential neighborhood and public information officer training. Dispatcher Melanie Blodgett-O'Toole attended the IACP training also and in fact was a presenter at one of the public information officer sessions. She is quickly gaining recognition as a well trained member of those who are law enforcement public information officers. Newly appointed part time police officers Thomas Stockwell and Keith Stratton have completed their field training and are working with full duties as

part time officers. Part time Officer John Larrabee is still in reserve police officer training and is expected to complete that in December. Janice Neitz is still going through the civil service approval process. Sgt Timothy Burke has become an Emergency Vehicle Driver Training Instructor. Sgt. Burke, Sgt. Emerick and I attended an internal affairs training conference in Leicester. I attended a MMA sponsored Labor Relations Conference in Boxboro with the Fire Chief and Town Manager. Dispatchers Brian Crater and Nicole Desruisseaux both completed Basic Telecommunications Training at the Milford Police Department. Detective Jody Dwight attended training by the Worcester County D.A's Office relative to Sexual assault investigations held at our police station. Sgt. Emerick attended a two day conference on Computer Crimes in Providence R.I. hosted by the National White Collar Crime Commission. Officers Kevin MacDonald and Steven Prior requalified on the firearms range and will be instructing other officers throughout the year. Even while deployed with the US Army Sgt. Tara McCrohan has recertified in first aid and CPR. Officer Brian MacDonald started the recertification process for all dispatchers and part time police officers in CPR. The training will be completed on November 1, 2006. As you can see there was a large amount of training in the month of October. More will occur over the remainder of the year.

Emergency Management: Sgt. Emerick has continued his hard work relative to Emergency Management planning and NIMS compliance training. A Table Top exercise is scheduled for early November with the School Department.

Grants: The grant process for reimbursement of new bullet resistant vests is still on going with the Federal portion of the grant having been awarded this month. The new vests are expected at any time.

As stated last month, through a cooperative effort with the School Department, a grant was received under the Securing Our Schools initiative of the Department of Justice. The matching monies will be sought at this November's town meeting and this is not only a great opportunity for the town but is also very timely considering the problems that are happening around the country.

Animal Control: The dog officer Responded to at least 26 complaints in the month of July. Joyce Gareri has been testifying at court relative to a vicious dog hearing at the Uxbridge District Court. The Clerk of Courts found in the town's favor. The case has been appealed and we have been told this month about a date for that appeal in November. We expect positive resolution. Work is still ongoing relative to possibly regionalizing the service. Further meetings are scheduled along with needed administrative action by the communities involved. Mendon approved the authorization for an agreement late in October at their town meeting.

I wish to thank the Board of Selectmen and you for your support as police chief and look forward to working with you in the upcoming months.

TOWN CLERK: Submitted by Joseph Smith

ELECTIONS:

November Elections: The State Election is coming up on November 7, 2006. We have 8,827 voters registered for the election and 120 new voters have registered since the Primary on September 19th. The office has also assisted 201 voters in filing applications to vote by absentee ballot.

VITAL RECORDS:

In the month of October we have recorded with the Secretary of State:

- 10 Birth certificates,
- 6 Marriage licenses
- 4 Death certificates

On the 10th of the month a state report is required recording the number of births, marriages, and deaths that have been processed by the Town Clerk's office.

We issued:

- 41 Certified copies of birth
- 20 Certified copies marriage certificates
- 30 Certified copies of death certificates

All birth, marriage, death and business certificates have to be indexed on a monthly basis.

REQUESTS/CERTIFICATES ISSUED:

- 16 Business certificates applications processed
- 4 Couples filed new marriage intentions

OTHER ITEMS ISSUED:

- 4 Street listing books sold

TURNOVERS:

							Grand Total
FY07	Town	Town Clerk	Dog	Dog	Dog	Total Weekly	Turned
Date	Clerk Fees	Licenses	Licenses	Late Fees	Fines	Turn Over	Over
10/13/06	205.00	95.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	300.00
10/23/06	195.00	290.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	485.00	785.00
10/27/06	90.00	55.00	54.00	20.00	45.00	264.00	1,049.00

Our office handles the dog licenses as well as processing the money collected for the licenses, late fees and fines by the Animal Control Officer.

Total amount of money turned over to the Treasurer/Collector's office for all fees collected for the month of October was \$1,049.00

PUBLIC OUTREACH

With the upcoming General Election on November 7th, our office sent birthday cards to all of the residents of Uxbridge who reached their 18th birthday prior to the registration deadline of October 18, 2006. The office will resume sending out cards in preparation for the Fall Annual Town Meetings to encourage eligible residents to vote.

OFFICE RECORDKEEPING:

The Town Clerk's office is the archival repository for the town. Our office is responsible for all 20 day appeals on ZBA decisions, filing Planning Board documents (i.e. Form A), various board/committee minutes, time stamp posting of meetings & agendas. We also display for the public agendas and meeting postings. Individuals can request copies of meeting minutes, agendas and postings through our office.

CUSTOMER SERVICE:

- Research, which entailed approximately 20 hours
- Genealogy
- Notary services
- Swearing In of committee members, new police officers, public offices

STAFF

Our part-time clerk Joe Smith was recently chosen to be one of the 13 individuals in the Leadership Blackstone Valley program sponsored by the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce's Education Foundation. Joe will be attending monthly meetings of the program aimed at shaping the future leadership of the Blackstone Valley.

SOLICITED INVOLVEMENT:

Working in cooperation with the By-Law Review and the Zoning Board the Town Clerk's office conducted research to support their efforts to finish the By-Law Codification project.

The office also conducted research in cooperation with the Assessor's office for the Senior Work off Program.